



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/727,757	12/04/2000	Masayoshi Miyamoto	200415US2	5469
22850	7590	05/19/2005	EXAMINER	
OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.				GIBBS, HEATHER D
1940 DUKE STREET				
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314				
				ART UNIT
				PAPER NUMBER
				2622

DATE MAILED: 05/19/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/727,757	MIYAMOTO ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Heather D. Gibbs	2622

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 November 2004.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-17 and 53-69 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-5,7-17,53-57 and 59-69 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) 6 and 58 is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 14 December 2000 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on (06/18/04 and) 12/02/04 was filed after the mailing date of the Restriction/Election Requirement on 10/06/04. The submission is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the examiner is considering the information disclosure statement.

Information Disclosure Statement

3. The information disclosure statement filed 06/18/2004 fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(1), which requires the following: (1) a list of all patents, publications, applications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office; (2) U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications listed in a section separately from citations of other documents; (3) the application number of the application in which the information disclosure statement is being submitted on each page of the list; (4) a column that provides a blank space next to each document to be considered, for the

examiner's initials; and (5) a heading that clearly indicates that the list is an information disclosure statement. The information disclosure statement has been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein has not been considered. Please include form PTO-1449 in your next office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1-5,7-17,53-69 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ohmori (US 6,822,765).

Regarding claim 1, which is representative of claim 53, Ohmori discloses An image reading apparatus comprising: a reading part reading original (Col 3 Lines 35-46); a time measuring part being able to measure different times selectively (Col 3 Lines 55-60;Col 4 Lines 47-51); and a defining part determining separation of sheets of the original read by said reading part, wherein said time measuring part selects a time to be measured according to a predetermined condition, and said defining part determines

the separation of sheets of the original when the selected time has elapsed without an operation concerning a reading operation being re-started after the reading operation of said reading part is once stopped (Col 8 Lines 32-36).

Considering claim 2, which is representative of claim 54, Ohmori teaches wherein, said predetermined condition comprises a condition of using the apparatus (Col 8 Lines 25-36).

Regarding claim 3, which is representative of claim 55, Ohmori teaches wherein said condition of using the apparatus comprises a function of the apparatus which is executed by reading the original (Col 7 Lines 63- Col 8 Line 8).

Regarding claim 4, which is representative of claim 56, Ohmori teaches wherein said function of the apparatus is at least one of a facsimile transmission function, a photocopying function and a scanning function (Col 7 Lines 7-14).

Considering claim 5, which is representative of claim 57, Ohmori discloses wherein said condition of using the apparatus is either one of a case where an automatic original feeding function is used and a case where the automatic original feeding function is not used an a user manually feeds the original (Col 4 Lines 17-24).

Considering claim 7, which is representative of claim 59, Ohmori teaches the image reading apparatus as claimed in claim 5, wherein, when operation of changing from a condition in which the automatic original feeding function is used to a condition in which the original is fed manually is detected during the measurement of the time of the case of using the automatic original feeding function by said time measuring part, said defining part determines that the measurement has finished even during the

measurement of said time and that the separation of sheets of the original occurs (Col 4 Lines 17-28). Examiner finds this to be well known in the art.

Regarding claim 8, which is representative of claim 60, Ohmori teaches wherein when an operation of again manually feeding the original is detected during measurement of the time of the case of manually feeding the original by said time measuring part, said time measuring part restarts the measurement of said time (Col 8 Lines 32-36).

Regarding claim 9, which is representative of claim 61, Ohmori teaches wherein measurement of the time by said time measuring part is stopped by a predetermined operation (Col 8 Lines 26-36).

Regarding claim 10, which is representative of claim 62, Ohmori discloses further comprising a registering part for previously registering, for the original to be read, as a plurality of documents, wherein image data read by said reading part from the original is treated as respective ones of the plurality of documents registered by said registering part (Col 3 Lines 25-34).

Considering claim 11, which is representative of claim 63, Ohmori teaches wherein said registering part is used for registering document information for each of the plurality of documents, and adds the document information to the image data for each document (Col 3 Lines 25-45).

Considering claim 12, which is representative of claim 64, Ohmori teaches wherein the document information comprised at least one of a reading condition, user information and storage information (Col 5 Lines 3-11).

Considering claim 13, which is representative of claim 65, Ohmori discloses further comprising a display part displaying the contents registered by said registering part during the reading operation by said reading part (Col 5 Lines 49-60).

Regarding claim 14, which is representative of claim 66, Ohmori discloses a display part displaying the contents registered by said registering part after the reading operation by said reading part; and a confirming/editing part for confirming/editing the registered contents viewing them displayed by said displaying part (Fig 3).

Regarding claim 15, which is representative of claim 67, Ohmori teaches treating one of a plurality of sheets of original as one document, comprising: a display part displaying part contents comprising separation of sheets of the original determined by said time measuring part and defining part, as temporary registered contents; and a confirming/editing for confirming/editing the temporary registered contents viewing them displayed by said displaying part (Fig 3-8).

Considering claim 16, which is representative of 68, Ohmori teaches wherein, said confirming/editing part is used for registering document information for each document of the plurality of document, and adding the document information to the image data for each document (Col 5 Lines 49-60; Figs 3-8).

Considering claim 17, which is representative of claim 69, Ohmori discloses wherein the document information comprises at least one of a reading condition, user information and storage information (Col 5 Lines 3-11).

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 6,58 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Heather D. Gibbs whose telephone number is 571-272-7404. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Thu 8AM-6PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward L. Coles can be reached on 571-272-7402. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Heather D Gibbs
Examiner
Art Unit 2622

hdg


EDWARD COLES
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600